## CLAIMS

1. A solid polymer electrolyte fuel battery cell comprising a solid polymer electrolyte membrane, a fuel electrode and an oxidant electrode, the both electrodes being disposed on both sides of the membrane, and a pair of current collectors disposed outside the electrodes, wherein a water-retaining material comprising fibers at least the surface layer of which contains a metal oxide is combined and integrated with at least the fuel electrode among the solid polymer electrolyte membrane, the fuel electrode and the oxidant electrode.

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- 2. The solid polymer electrolyte fuel battery cell according to claim 1, wherein the water-retaining material is in the form of fiber cloth.
- 3. The solid polymer electrolyte fuel battery cell according to claim 2, wherein the fiber cloth comprises fibers having an average diameter of 0.10 to 100  $\mu m$  and is a woven or nonwoven fabric having a basis weight of 1.0 to 300g  $/m^2$  and a thickness of 20 to 1000  $\mu m$ .
- 4. The solid polymer electrolyte fuel battery cell according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the water-retaining material is combined and integrated with all of the solid polymer electrolyte membrane, the fuel electrode and the oxidant electrode.
  - 5. The solid polymer electrolyte fuel battery cell

according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the water-retaining material is combined and integrated with both of the fuel electrode and the oxidant electrode.

- 5 6. The solid polymer electrolyte fuel battery cell according to claim 5, wherein a water-retaining material combined and integrated within the fuel electrode and a water-retaining material combined and integrated with the oxidant electrode are connected to each other outside the edge of the solid polymer electrolyte membrane.
  - 7. A fuel battery using the solid polymer electrolyte fuel battery cell according to claim 1.
- 8. A water-retaining material for solid polymer electrolyte fuel battery cells, which comprises a woven fabric at least the surface layer of which contains a metal oxide.